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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/600,658	06/23/2003	Ryou Kanno	239266US3	6150

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EXAMINER

VINCENT, SEAN E

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1731

DATE MAILED: 08/29/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/600,658

Applicant(s)

KANNO ET AL.

Examiner

Sean E. Vincent

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 June 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 June 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
2. Claims 1, 3, 5-7 and 9-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Takeda et al (US 6397634).
3. Takeda et al taught methods and systems for positioning and bending glass plates wherein glass plates were conveyed on rollers and the rollers in contact with the glass plates were moved vertically as well as arranged to be swingable on a conveying surface of the glass plates. A motion controller performed "multiaxial control" on each of the rollers to bend the glass plates during transfer on the transferring rollers. Plural rollers were independently vertically moved one after the other in conjunction with the conveyance of each glass plate. Freely oscillating sandwich rollers 64 were inclined to further shape the glass plates. Also, rollers 20A, 20B... were capable of inclining in a vertical direction (see abstract, figures, col. 2, line 33 to col. 3, line 60; col. 5, lines 1-7; col. 6, lines 20-51; col. 8, line 18 to col. 9, line 4; col. 13, line 63 to col. 16, line 16 and col. 20, line 13 to col. 23, line 63).
4. Claims 7-9, 11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Letemps et al (US 5226942).
5. Letemps et al taught systems for positioning and bending glass plates wherein glass plates were conveyed on rollers and the rollers in contact with the glass plates were moved in longitudinal and oblique directions. A whole roller portion 17 was moved such that roller

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movements had components in both the longitudinal and oblique directions. A camera 9 as well as detectors 21 and 22 were disclosed for the recognition of the posture of the glass sheets and a computer was used to determine the displacement amount to use for moving the movable roller portion 17. (see abstract, figures, col. 6, lines 38-61; col. 7, line 5 to col. 8, line 51).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

8. Claims 1-4 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Letemps et al.

9. Letemps et al did not teach a method in which the roller group 17 was moved while in contact with the glass "in conveyance". It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to move the rollers 17 as such because it would

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have permitted the conveyance of the glass sheet to proceed uninterrupted. A person of ordinary skill in the art would have expected the entire process to take less time by avoiding interruptions in glass conveyance.

Response to Arguments

10: Applicant's arguments filed June 21, 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

11. In response to the argument that Takeda et al did not teach horizontal movement of rollers, the examiner disagrees. The movement of the roller 64 as shown in figures 7-9 and roller 23 in figure 6 (described in col. 13, line 12 to col. 16, line 16) was at least partly horizontal.

12. In response to the argument that Letemps et al did not teach horizontal movement of the roller group 17 while in contact with the glass "in conveyance", the examiner notes that in an apparatus claim, the apparatus is not limited by functional language. In the instant case, the apparatus of Letemps et al was capable of moving horizontally while in contact with the glass "in conveyance". See MPEP 2114.

Conclusion

13. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

14. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after

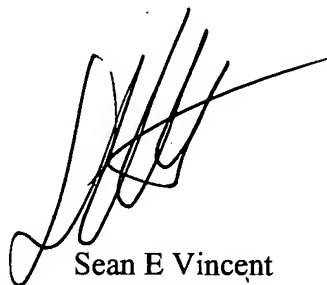
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the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sean E. Vincent whose telephone number is (571) 272-1194. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F (8:30 - 6:00).

16. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven P. Griffin can be reached on (571) 272-1189. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

17. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Vincent', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Sean E Vincent
Primary Examiner
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S Vincent

August 24, 2006